

Katrina Shankland 71st ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Media Release

For Immediate Release April 11, 2018 Contact: Rep. Katrina Shankland

office: (608) 267-9649

Rep. Shankland: Statement on SVP Placement in Town of Alban

MADISON – This week, the state released a second out-of-county Sexually Violent Person (SVP) into the Town of Alban, despite a recent law change that requires SVPs to be placed in their home counties for supervised release.

Although a Milwaukee County judge ordered the placement of SVP Gregory Loomis in March, his release was still pending on the date the new law was enacted. Portage County immediately filed a motion with the judge to request that the placement be reconsidered in light of the new law, and a hearing has been scheduled for May 24. Despite the pending hearing, the state Department of Health Services (DHS) released Mr. Loomis into the Town of Alban on Monday without notifying Portage County officials until Tuesday.

In response, Rep. Shankland (D-Stevens Point) released the following statement:

"The legislative intent of the new law is clear – no new SVPs should be released into communities that are outside their county of origin. I'm deeply troubled that the Department of Health Services has chosen to bypass the legislature's wishes and undermine the integrity of the court process. The people of Portage County deserve better.

"Last week, I sent a letter to the Milwaukee County judge urging her to issue an immediate injunction on Mr. Loomis' release pending the scheduled court hearing. I also appreciate the efforts of Corporation Counsel David Ray and Sheriff Mike Lukas to intervene in this case. While I'm disappointed that our efforts did not succeed, I remain hopeful that the judge will reconsider Mr. Loomis' placement in the Town of Alban and relocate him back to Milwaukee County. After all, that is the law."

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